

Claims

1. Eye implant, comprising a flat element made of biocompatible material, said element being made at least partly opaque or light reflecting, such that in use the eye implant shall be visible, once implanted in an eye.
2. Eye implant according to claim 1, wherein said element is substantially opaque and made light reflecting.
- 10 3. Eye implant according to claim 1, wherein said element is substantially disc shaped.
4. Eye Implant according to claim 1, wherein the thickness of said flat element is less than approximately 0.5 mm, preferably between 0 and 0.3 mm and most preferably between 1 and 250 micron.
- 15 5. Eye implant according to claim 1, wherein said element has a relatively small thickness and dimensions perpendicular to said thickness which are less than 12 mm, more particularly less than 5 mm and preferably between 0.5 and 4 mm.
- 20 6. Eye implant according to claim 1, wherein the implant has an outer edge which is substantially rounded.
7. Eye implant according to claim 1, wherein the implant is a cosmetic implant.
- 25 8. Eye implant according to claim 1, wherein the implant is substantially made of a material or combination of materials chosen from the group of platinum, platinum-iridium, titanium, gold, silver, glass, polymethylmethacrylate, stone, jewellery stone, sand, silica, porcelain, hair, cilia.
- 30 9. Eye implant according to claim 1, wherein the material or combination of materials used allows sterilisation.

10. Eye implant according to claim 1, wherein the implant has at least one concave surface, preferably one concave and one convex surface.
11. Eye implant according to claim 1, enclosed in a closed container like a box or pouch,
5 said eye implant being sterilised or sterilisable within said container.
12. Eye implant according to claim 1, wherein attachment means are provided for permanently or releasably connecting said implant to an eye, especially to the conjunctiva, sclera, cornea or iris of an eye.
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13. Eye implant according to claim 1, positioned on an eye, especially on the conjunctiva of an eye, visible in a frontal view of said eye with open eyelids.
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14. Eye implant according to claim 1, positioned in an eye, especially in the conjunctiva of an eye, visible in a frontal view of said eye with open eyelids.
15. Eye implant according to claim 1, positioned in an eye, especially between the conjunctiva and the sclera of an eye, visible in a frontal view of said eye with open eyelids.
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16. Eye implant according to claim 1, positioned in an eye, especially on or in the sclera of an eye, visible in a frontal view of said eye with open eyelids.
17. Eye implant according to claim 1, positioned in an eye, especially in or on the cornea or iris of an eye, visible in a frontal view of said eye with open eyelids.
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18. Eye implant according to claim 1, wherein the implant consists of or comprises multiple particles or multiple particles evenly distributed within a carrier substance, for example a visco elastic material, for example hyaluronic acid.
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19. Use of a flat, bio compatible element, especially according to claim 1 as a cosmetic eye implant.

20. Eye of a vertebrate, comprising a cosmetic eye implant positioned in, on or between the conjunctiva, sclera, cornea and/or iris thereof.

5 21. Eye according to claim 20, wherein said eye implant is positioned spaced apart from the pupil of said eye and is visible from a frontal view.

22. Method for implanting an element in an eye, comprising the steps of:
providing said element made of eye compatible material, which element is at least
10 partly opaque and/or light reflecting;
providing an opening in the conjunctiva of an eye;
dissecting part of the conjunctiva from the conjunctiva or sclera through said opening;
inserting said element in the conjunctiva or between the conjunctiva and the sclera
through said opening; and
15 closing said opening preferably by self sealing, thereby enclosing said element

23. Method according to claim 22, wherein said opening is provided spaced apart from a desired implantation site, whereby a subconjunctive tunnel is provided from said opening to said implantation site, the opening preferably being closed with self absorbing suture, glue or
20 the like.

24. Method according to claim 22, wherein an implantation site is used situated in a temporal or nasal conjunctive area, preferably a lower temporal or nasal area, about 2 to 5 mm spaced apart from the relevant part of the limbus.

25 25. Method for implanting an element in an eye, comprising the steps of:
providing said element made of eye compatible material, which element is at least
partly opaque and/or light reflecting;
providing an opening in the conjunctiva of an eye;
30 providing a scleral tunnel into the clear cornea of said eye, connected to said opening;

introducing said element into said scleral tunnel through said opening into the peripheral cornea; and

closing said opening, thereby enclosing said element in said scleral tunnel.

- 5 26. Method according to claim 25, wherein an implantation site is used situated in a temporal or nasal cornea area, preferably a lower temporal or nasal area, about 1 to 2 mm spaced apart from the relevant part of the limbus.
27. Method for implanting an element in an eye, comprising the steps of:
- 10 providing said element made of eye compatible material, which element is at least partly opaque and/or light reflecting;
- providing an opening in the conjunctiva of an eye;
- providing a scleral incision into the clear cornea of said eye, connected to said opening;
- 15 providing an incision from said scleral incision into the anterior chamber of said eye; introducing said element through said opening and said incisions into said anterior chamber and positioning said element on the iris of said eye; and
- closing said opening.
- 20 28. Method according to claim 27, wherein an implantation site is used situated in an interpalpebral area of the mid iris or of the mid-central iris.
29. Set of an eye implant according to claim 1, at least one scalpel or similar knife, visco elastic material and at least one forceps.